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SALT OUTPUT TO INCREASE THIS YEAR.

NEW METHODS FOR SALT PRODUCTION -- Rad, No 137, 10 Jun 49

The salt magazine on Pag Island will produce much more salt this year than before the war, and more than last year.

By increasing the concentration of the sea water in the crystallization basins, the crystallization process has been greatly accelerated.

A large navigable canal is being constructed at the salt magazine. During heavy rains, the rain water used to pour into the concentration and crystallization basins, greatly hampering production. The construction of the canal, which will drain off the rain water, will increase salt production by 30 to 50 percent. The canal will be finished by fall.

Since April, efforts have been made to mechanize the salt magazines, to build a narrow-gauge industrial railroad to the crystallization basins, to set up large cranes, and to expedite the transport of salt from the basins by ship or by truck.

Investigation on the south side of Pag Island, on the site of a large salt magazine built by the Austro-Hungarian government, has shown that the sea is saltier there than at the present salt magazine, and that a new salt magazine twice as large as the present one should be built there easily and inexpensively.

NEW FACTORY TO PRODUCE PLASTICS -- Rad, No 132, 4 Jun 49

The "Jugovinil" (Yugoslav Vinyl) factory, construction of which was begun 2 years ago on the seashore at Kastel Sucurac in Split Srez, is as large as the average European polyvinyl plastic factory, and has fully modern equipment. Its capacity will be sufficient to satisfy all domestic requirements, and about half of its production can be exported.

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As plastics were practically unknown in Yugoslavia before the war, and then only as insulation and rubber substitutes, domestic demand will be limited to items formerly made of other materials.

Production at the factory will begin during the last quarter of 1949. Pipes, artificial leather for shoes, automobile and other seats, soles which are five times more impervious than leather, ropes for ships, yarn for fish nets, raincoats, glues, varnish, and other items will be manufactured there.

EDIBLE OIL FROM TECHNICAL OIL -- Politika, No 13260, 10 Jun 49

A. Masera of Dubrovnik has succeeded in deriving an edible oil from the technical oil obtained from corn germ, and in refining the same kind of technical oil so as to obtain an oil suitable for use in the paint industry. As a result, Croatian factories are now supplied with ample quantities of the latter.

The 1948 olive oil yield was one of the largest in recent years, but the quality of the oil was injured by the high percentage of free fatty acids in it. Consequently much of the oil had to be used as technical oil rather than for food.

Through a process discovered by Masera, about five carloads of this oil have been reclaimed for human consumption.

NEW PROCESS SAVES TANNIN -- Politika, No 13257, 6 Jun 49

Zagreb -- Nikola Kubares, a worker in the "Almerija" leather factory, has discovered a process by which over 200,000 dinars' worth of tannin can be saved per year.

When leather is placed in basins containing tannin solution, the leather absorbs the tannin, and when the concentration of the solution drops to a certain point, the remainder is thrown away.

Kubares, recognizing that the concentration of the solution increases with the evaporation of water, built a special battery to evaporate the water and restore the solution to its proper concentration.

NEW PRODUCTS OF YUGOSLAV INDUSTRY -- Politika, No 13260, 10 Jun 49

A variable condenser for radio sets has been invented by radio mechanic Franc Podohnik. Such condensers have always been imported in the past. Preparations are under way for their serial production.

The Factory for the Food-Processing and Chemical Industry in Zagreb has produced a new distilling apparatus, the first to be made in Yugoslavia of Yugoslav materials.

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